

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A movable platform unit (1) for a boat (B), ~~in particular for launching or hauling out a tender or similar craft,~~ which includes a base portion (2), secured to the boat (B), and at least one swing arm (32a, 32b) pivoted by one end to ~~the~~-said base portion (2) and by the other to a loading platform (3), ~~the~~-said at least one swing arm (32a, 32b) being rotatable by a first drive member (57) secured thereto and rotatable about the pivoting axis (x) of the swing arm (32a, 32b) onto the base portion (2), alignment means (67, 68) being provided for connecting the-said platform (3) with a second drive member (65a) fixed to ~~the~~-said base portion (2) and coaxial with the pivoting axis (x) of the swing arm (32a, 32b) on the base portion (2), in such a way that the platform (3) is enabled to remain at a constant inclination to ~~the~~-said base portion (2) during rotation of ~~the~~-said at least one swing arm (32a, 32b), characterised characterized in that

~~the~~-said first drive member (57) includes a pulley element securely fixed to ~~the~~-said at least one swing arm (32a, 32b) and operable to be rotated by first chain drive means (55), the said chain drive means (55) and ~~the~~-said pulley element (57) being enclosed within at least one hollow fixed arm (22a, 22b) provided in a cavity (21) of the base portion (2), and ~~the~~-said at least one swing arm (32a, 32b) being pivoted to the distal end of ~~the~~-said at least one fixed arm (22a,

22b) in such a way that the swing arm (32a, 32b) can assume a closed position, in which it lies flat in the cavity (21) of the base portion (2).

2. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to Claim 1, in which ~~the~~-said second drive member (65a) includes a pulley element secured to ~~the~~-said base portion (2), and ~~the~~-said platform (3) is secured to a further pulley element (67), ~~the~~-said second transmission member (65a) and ~~the~~-said pulley element (67) being connected by second chain drive means (68) so as to be rotatable together in relation to the swing arm (32a, 32b).

3. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to Claim 1-~~or 2~~, in which ~~the~~ said at least one swing arm (32a, 32b) has a plurality of step elements (35, 35a) mounted along its length for facilitating access to the platform (3) by users.

4. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to Claim 3, in which ~~the~~-said alignment means (67, 68) connect ~~the~~-said load platform (3) and ~~the~~-said second drive member (65a) to third drive means (65), secured to ~~the~~-said plurality of step elements (35, 35a) and rotatable about axes parallel to the axis (x) about which the swing arm (32a, 32b) is pivoted on the base portion (2) in such a way as to enable ~~the~~-said plurality of step elements (35, 35a) constantly to maintain substantially the same inclination as ~~the~~-said platform (3) during rotation of ~~the~~-said at least one swing arm (32, 32a).

5. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to Claim 4, in which the said third drive means (65) include a plurality of pulley elements, each secured to a respective step element (35), the-said second chain drive means (68) also connecting the pulley elements (65) of the step elements (35) to the pulley element of the second drive member (65a) in such a way that these pulley elements are rotatable together relative to the swing arm (32a, 32b).

6. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to any preceding Claim 1, in which the-said base portion (2) is adapted to be fixed to the structure of a boat (B).

7. (Currently Amended) A platform unit according to Claim 1, in which the said first chain drive means (55) is capable of being driven alternately by first and second hydraulic-cylinder control means (51, 52), operable to be controlled selectively by solenoid valve means (59).